

## **Andrew Jackson to John Christmas McLemore, May 3, 1829, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.**

### **TO JOHN C. MCLEMORE.<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> N. Y. Hist. Soc.

Washington, May 3, 1829.

. . . . I find my son made a mistake in the name subscribed to one of the letters I enclosed to you the other day, he mistook Lt. Elie A. F. Vallette, for Wollette the F being Joined to the V. You will please note this mistake and correct it. The letter is from Lt. Elie A. F. Vallette, a highly respectable Lt. in the Navy, and which gives the lie direct to the slanders circulated about Major Eaton and Mrs. Eaton. If you see Genl Desha, or any other who has been thus speaking, you are at full liberty to shew them the copies of the letters I enclosed to you. Major Eaton is now popular, and will become one of the most popular of all the heads of Departments. Indeed I am highly pleased with my executive council, they are able amiable men, and the greatest harmony prevails. The prime movers of the secrete slanders against Eaton have been silenced by the firm and energetic stand taken by Eaton. he has never yet been able to trace it to a gentleman, it has been circulated by females, and he took the stand to make husbands answerable for the sayings of their wives, and called upon two of them, when both the wife and the husband declared that they never had heard or knew any thing disrespectful of Mrs. or Major Eaton. Now I do know that one of them was the first originator of the falshood, and I have no doubt were the source from whence Houston, Desha and others got their information. But these satelites of Clay, who has duped some of our Tennesseens, are falling into the pitts dug for Major Eaton, and their slanders are recoiling upon their own heads. There is no

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respectable strangers who do not call upon Mrs. and Major Eaton and Major Barry is now living with them; the cloud is blowing over, altho it has cost me some pangs. But the world was mistaken in me. The attempt was made to induce me to abandon my friend, *it failed* . I would sink with honor to my grave, before I would abandon my friend Eaton. I will support him, he is a well tried friend, and now, an efficient aid to me, in the administration of the Govt. I have no fear but it will be found that I have around me as able a cabinet as ever administered this government. Give my respects to my friend Judge Overton, say to him, I will write him soon, give my compliments to Mr. Hume, Earle, Purdy, Barryhill, Armstrong, Parish and all friends, present me affectionately to Betsy and all yr sweet children, we are all getting well here. Yr. friend

P. S. Rumor says here, you are going to Have Genl Hall a candidate for the office of Governor, and that East Tennessee is going to bring him out. is this true.